

**Regarding Hospice Legislation
Elizabeth Edele
Stamford, CT
March 14, 2012**

Dear Senator Terry B. Gerrantana and Representative Elizabeth B. Ritter,

I understand that you will be considering the best options regarding Hospice Legislation in Connecticut. I wanted to convey two points that may be helpful to consider in your decision making.

I am a teacher in Greenwich, CT. Two weeks ago one of our younger teachers was in the office with some of the staff. She was relaying sadly that her father, who was in his fifties, was in Greenwich Hospital facing the final days of his life. A staff member asked if he could be referred to the Stamford Hospice. Another staff member replied, "No it is closed."

The teacher who's father was dying said that each week the family was having to file paperwork in order for her father to stay in Greenwich - near family. The hospital staff, as she put it, was trying to move her father to Branford for the final days of his life - on a good day with traffic - two hours away from his family.

This event is playing and replaying here at this end of Connecticut. Would you please strongly consider a way of providing access to Residence Hospice care back to Fairfield County. We are languishing here for a place where our loved ones can end their lives with dignity and caring staff familiar with the particular medical needs of dying patients and their families.

Thank you for your time.

Most sincerely,

**Elizabeth Edele
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